

USADF signs grants to support livestock projects

By CYNTHIA MWALE

THE United States African Development Foundation (USADF) has signed two grant agreements to support fishing associations in Zambia.

Zambia's current portfolio stands at 32 investment projects totalling over US\$6 million. USADF started the programme in Zambia in 2003.

The beneficiaries are Itezhi-tezhi Business Association (IBA) and Mweru Luapula Fishing Association (MLFA).

This is contained in a statement issued in Lusaka yesterday.

USADF chairman Jack Leslie says the organisation is assisting the fishing association to improve the livelihood of their respective local communities.

"Supporting groups like IBA and MLFA helps local communities in terms of food security and increased incomes for members, which in turn create a better quality of life for community members," he says.

IBA, which is located in Southern Province, has 65 members who are either direct fish producers or traders who buy fish and transport it to Lusaka for sale.

The MLFA, situated in Luapula Province, markets the fish caught by its 1,900 members in four districts. The districts are Nchelenge, Mwense, Kawambwa and Chiengi.

USADF is a United States government agency dedicated to expanding access to economic opportunities to the most marginalised population in Africa. It currently operates in 20 African countries and has funded over US\$200 million initiated and led development projects.